

Welcome to 3rd Grade! ***A letter from Mrs. Marpe***

August 12, 2015

Dear Parents,

I am honored to have your child as a student in our third grade class. First, please know that it is my goal to help your child achieve his or her best in a safe and caring classroom environment. I will encourage each student to reach his or her highest potential as we establish a life long love of learning. To this end, here are some details about our classroom that will help us work together this coming year.

Class Management/Incentives

M.A.P. for Success **(Manners, Attitude, Perseverance)**

We will recognize good choices in character and work habits with a color-coded card system. Students will turn cards on the Rainbow Chart and earn tickets, which they will be able to use at the Treasure Table at the end of each quarter.

Students start each day on Purple and have a Blue and a Green card underneath that purple on the Rainbow Chart.

- Every Purple in the pocket at the end of the day = earn 1 ticket per Purple.
- End the day on Blue or Green = earn 1 ticket
- End the day on Yellow = owe 1 ticket
- End the day on Orange = owe 2 tickets with 10 minutes taken away from an activity.
- End the day on Red = owe 3 tickets with a call or email to home and an office referral.

Sharing

Sharing in our class is in the form of sharing writing assignments, book reports, group work, art projects, and other academic pursuits. We do not share personal items at school.

Parent Volunteers

I encourage you to come and learn with us! You are the foundation of your child's success and I look forward to working with you! We will meet each other formally at **Back to School Night on Wednesday, August 12th** where you can sign up for days and times you are available. I will set up a volunteer schedule, which will begin in October. I will ask you to sign up for one hour. This schedule is flexible and stress-free.

I would like one or two **Room Parents** to help with special activities and work with our PTA on special events. I like to keep things simple, so this job won't require a lot of time or effort on your part.

School Supplies 2015-2016

Mrs. Marpe, 3rd Grade

Here is a list of recommended supplies your child will need for the school year. You may keep these at home and supply your child as needed throughout the year. If you would like to donate any of these items to the class supply box, I thank you in advance, and I will distribute these as needed to all students.

- Pencil box or zipper pocket (see below for supplies to keep in this box**)
- 1 homework folder with a pocket on each side, any design or color
- 1 package Ticonderoga #2 yellow pencils ("World's Best", preferred and most durable)
- 1 personal pencil sharpener with lid to catch the shavings
- 1 pair student scissors, blunt tips preferred
- 1 package of glue sticks, any count
- 24 count (or smaller) Crayola crayons
- 2-3 rectangular pink erasers
- 1 package of cap erasers, any count
- 2-3 packages of wide ruled notebook paper for use at home and at school
- 2 spiral notebooks, wide ruled, any color
- 1 ruler with both inches and centimeters to use at home for homework
- Markers, colored pencils, and mechanical pencils are **optional**. These items clutter pencil boxes and are not needed for daily use, but your child is welcome to keep them in his/her backpack.

- I have additional supplies of all of these items in class.

- Students will have opportunities to get supplies at the Treasure Table as well.

****Your child can keep the following items in a pencil box or pouch in his/her desk:**

- 2-3 Ticonderoga yellow pencils
- 1 pink eraser
- 2-3 additional cap erasers
- 1 pencil sharpener with lid to catch shavings
- 1 pair student scissors (blunt tips preferred)
- 1 glue stick
- 1 (24-count or smaller) box of crayons
- Please label all personal items such as pencil sharpeners, homework folders, and pencils boxes.
- *There is no room in the standard pencil boxes for markers, colored pencils, highlighters, etc. and this clutter can be difficult for your child to manage. I have class supplies of these items; or your child can keep his/her own supply of these in his/her backpack.*

Celebrating Birthdays

We will celebrate your child's birthday with special recognitions.

We can no longer have food treats for birthdays due to district policies, and ongoing food allergies and sensitivities of our students. *Please do not send anything in on your child's birthday*, I will not be able to serve food to the kids.

Homework

The Murrieta Valley Unified School District mandates 30-45 minutes of homework four nights a week for third grade students. Your child will receive homework in these forms:

1. **READING, READING, READING** at least 20 minutes each night, more if your child finishes the language arts and math homework early. I will use reports from RAZ-Kids and Accelerated Reader to check your child's reading at home.
2. **Language Arts Spelling and Vocabulary Homework** which will go home *every Friday* and is *due the following Friday*. We study each story for two weeks. The first week we study grammar and spelling with a traditional spelling test on Friday of Week 1. The second week we study vocabulary and comprehension skills with a cumulative assessment on Friday of Week 2.
3. **Math Homework will go home each night and is due the following day**. This daily homework schedule might change to fit test reviews, extra lessons, etc. and your child will note this on the Homework Agenda.
4. **HOMEWORK AGENDA**: Your child will be responsible each day for filling out the Homework Agenda so s/he and you will know the assignments and due dates. **PLEASE REVIEW AND INITIAL EACH PAGE OF HOMEWORK AND THE HOMEWORK AGENDA.**

Toys and Personal Items at School

If your child brings a toy or other personal item that distracts your child or other classmates, I will take the item away, return it to your child after school, and ask that the item be kept at home.

I believe your child's success depends in part on a strong, trusting partnership between you and me. *Always* call me or email me with questions or concerns. I'll get back to you as soon as possible. My telephone number is **894-5085 ext 2947**. My email address is nmarpe@murrieta.k12.ca.us.

I look forward to a rewarding and challenging year for our children!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Marpe

Classroom Code of Conduct

M.A.P. for Success

(Manners, Attitude, Perseverance)

1. Be kind.
2. Use polite words.
3. Listen carefully.
4. Think first.
5. Respect everyone.
6. Take turns.
7. Be honest.
8. Help others.
9. Do your best.

We will recognize good choices in character and work habits with a color-coded card system. Students will turn cards and earn tickets, which they will be able to spend at the Treasure Table at the end of each quarter.

- Everyone starts each day on Purple and can earn more for good choices and work habits.
- Every Purple in the pocket at the end of the day = earn 1 ticket per Purple.
- End the day on Blue or Green = earn 1 ticket
- End the day on Yellow = owe 1 ticket
- End the day on Orange = owe 2 tickets with 10 minutes taken away from an activity.
- End the day on Red = owe 3 tickets with a call or email to home and an office referral.

Students earn extra purples and extra tickets by following the rules listed above, showing good character, good work habits, effort and perseverance.

After several verbal warnings, students will be asked to pull and turn their cards to Yellow, Orange or Red for disruptive behavior which includes excessive talking during a lesson, distracting others who are trying to work, or disrespecting personal space or property.

Mrs. Marpe's Page

Parents: Please take a moment to answer these questions. Please **return JUST THIS PAGE** to me, keep the Classroom Plan and Code of Conduct at home for reference.

My child's name: _____ My child's birthday: _____

My child's hobbies/interests:

My child's extracurricular activities:

Health concerns and/or food allergies/sensitivities?

Academic concerns? _____

Your goals for your child this year: _____

Your current email address and phone number for news alerts and updates from class:

Email

Phone

My child and I have discussed and understand our Classroom Code of Conduct.

Parent's signature

Student's signature